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*We say No TD, We mean Human Rights in Canada*

NO TD is a collective of individuals who are putting their efforts together to protest against TD Canada Trust unlawful action.

Thursday August 30th, 2012

The Hon. Jim Karygiannis, P.C. MP.  
3850 Finch Ave East, Suite 206, Scar ON M1T 3T6  
Telephone: (416) 321 5454 Fax: (647) 723-0287  
[jim@karygiannismp.com](mailto:jim@karygiannismp.com)

Dear Mr. Jim Karygiannis,

Thank you very much for your attendance in our protest on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and accepted our invitation for a meeting and discussion about the Discriminatory actions of the TD bank. As you are aware, TD bank terminated the accounts of many of its customers with an Iranian heritage, giving very little or no explanations, mostly for the past 8 months all over the country.

The Canadian-Iranian community is in shock and outraged by this. Below we have attached a summary of TD's action and we would like you to use your good office and take the matter up with the Ministers of Finance and Foreign Affairs on behalf of our community. We consider you a friend and a strong supporter of the democratic values of this great nation and we would like to add here that we consider ourselves first and foremost Canadians and we see no reason why the community should be targeted in such a blatant manner.

We have written numerous letters to TD but to no avail. The community feels that this is in breach of our rights as Canadian citizens and some are contemplating bringing law suits against TD.

We leave the matter in your good hands and await your response.

Best Regards,

Pooya Sadeghi - Manya Koopal - Ali Ehssasi - Kavoos Soofi - Medi Shams

The TD Bank adheres to discriminatory practices that target Canadian citizens of Iranian heritage, rather than comply with the letter and spirit of the new SEMA sanctions. The institution's arbitrary actions have consisted of terminating bank accounts, calling back mortgages, and closing the lines of credit of many customers with an Iranian background.

The actions of TD can neither be justified by the SEMA regulations, nor be excused under pretext of promoting national security. Rather, the Bank's approach systematically institutionalizes prejudice against individuals of Iranian heritage.

### **Background**

Recently 100's Iranian-Canadians have been targeted by TD Canada Trust. Many clients of the bank sharing an Iranian background received "Termination notice" letters informing them that they would no longer be permitted to maintain accounts at TD bank. The majority of the affected clients are first generation immigrants who have never engaged in any type of illegal activity or prohibited financial transaction. Nonetheless, TD bank forced many of its loyal clients to terminate their accounts, refinance existing mortgages, pay off credit cards and lines of credit without offering these individuals any opportunity to rectify the error or demonstrate that they have fully complied with all Canadian laws and regulations.

Although TD bank has belatedly claimed it will endeavor to "improve communications" with affected clients, it has refused to either provide any affected customer a bona fide opportunity to present evidence of clearance from any unlawful activity or offered them apologies for the Bank's rash and questionable conduct.

It appears that those Canadians originally hailing from a country identified in the SEMA regulations are being used as escape goats by TD to cover up for its cozy relationship with the governments of the sanctioned countries in the past.

Based on TD bank's systematic disrespect for its clients and the violation of their civil rights, we condemn the arbitrary actions of TD Canada Trust that are disruptive to the lives of ordinary citizens. These actions are unfair, and inherently un-Canadian, discriminatory and humiliating. TD Canada Trust should accept responsibility and provide full accountability and precise justification to any client of Iranian background affected by its arbitrary conduct.

### **We propose the following actions:**

- *TD Canada Trust stop issuing "Termination Notices" unless they first provide affected individuals an opportunity to establish the facts.*
- *A letter of apology be sent to clients subjected to rash decision making by the Bank.*
- *TD Canada Trust promote transparency by providing full explanation to all the affected clients.*
- *TD Canada Trust devise a process to interview clients whose accounts are under investigation so as to allow the bank to properly assess pending banking risks.*
- *The Canadian government is under a constitutional and international obligation to take all necessary measures to protect the human dignity and basic human rights of all its citizens and to avoid and prevent discrimination based on "national or ethnic origin."*

## **"TD CANADA TRUST" SHOULD BE STOPPED FROM BULLYING CERTAIN CUSTOMERS.**

For More Info Please Visit:

<http://www.facebook.com/CondemnTDIranians>

